



U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Foreign Agricultural Service

## Fact Sheet

### *WTO and Agriculture* **What's at Stake for Wisconsin?**

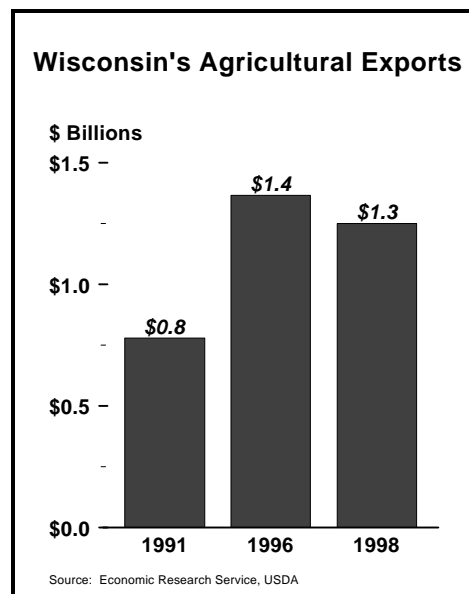
#### **October 1999**

Wisconsin is a major producer and exporter of agricultural and forest products. The state's farm cash receipts and forest product shipments totaled \$6.2 billion in 1998 and \$2.8 billion in 1996, respectively. Wisconsin ranked 14th among all 50 states in 1998 with agricultural exports estimated at \$1.3 billion. These exports help boost farm prices and income, while supporting about 19,800 jobs both on and off the farm in food processing, storage, and transportation. Exports are increasingly important to Wisconsin's agricultural and state-wide economy. Measured as exports divided by farm cash receipts, the state's reliance on agricultural exports has risen from 14 percent to 20 percent since 1991.

The top five agricultural exports in 1998 were:

- # feed grains and products -- \$260 million
- # vegetables -- \$227 million
- # dairy products -- \$220 million
- # live animals and red meats -- \$173 million
- # soybeans and products -- \$148 million

World demand for these products is increasing, but so is competition among suppliers. If Wisconsin's farmers, ranchers, and food processors are to compete successfully for the export opportunities of the 21st century, they need *fair trade* and *fair access* to growing global markets.



#### **Wisconsin Benefits From Trade Agreements**

- # Wisconsin, a large feed corn producer, benefits under the Uruguay Round as Japan increases its 3.75-million-ton zero duty quota for feed corn by 450,000 tons by 2000. South Korea is lowering its in-quota tariff on feed corn and popcorn from 3 percent to 1.8 percent from 1995 to 2005. Korea is also reducing tariffs on mixed animal feeds from 7 percent to 4.2 percent.
- # Wisconsin benefits from the Uruguay Round with a 38-percent reduction in the quantity of EU beef receiving export subsidies by 2000. Japan is reducing beef tariffs from 50 percent to 38.5 percent. Korea will eliminate its beef import quota by 2001 and reduce its tariffs to 40 percent by 2004. The Philippines is reducing its beef tariff from 60 percent to 35 percent.
- # Wisconsin benefits under the Uruguay Round as Japan, Korea and Thailand lower their tariffs on canned sweet corn. Japan is reducing tariffs on frozen, sweet corn from 12.5 percent to 7.5 percent.